IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

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WASHIZUKA et al.

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT

Facsimile Transmission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile number 703-872-9306, on this 6th day of April, 2005.

Michael J. Shea

In response to the office action dated December 6, 2004, please amend the subject patent application as follows. This Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2. Remarks begin on page 14.